

**Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance**

**Role of the Board of Directors 2022**

**Mission Statement**

The Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance (the SIAA) promotes, supports and defends the principles and practice of independent advocacy across Scotland.

It does this by:

* Providing a strong national voice for independent advocacy organisations.
* Supporting the growth of existing independent advocacy organisations.
* Promoting the development of new independent advocacy organisations.
* Encouraging existing advocacy organisations towards independence.

**General Responsibilities of the Board of Directors**

The role of the Board of Directors is to work as a team to ensure due diligence and integrity, , to provide governance and to work in partnership with the CEO to achieve the aims of the SIAA.

**The Main Duties of Board Members**

* To ensure that the SIAA conducts its business in accordance with its Constitution, Memorandum and Articles of Association and in adherence with relevant legislation.
* To govern the organisation within best practice frameworks.
* To attend Board meetings (and relevant sub groups) regularly and contribute actively to the role of the Board in determining strategy, approving policy and monitoring performance.
* To ensure that the organisation’s resources are deployed in such a way as to ensure the SIAA meets its objectives and that the SIAA’s finances are systematically accounted for, audited and made publicly available.
* To oversee the management of the SIAA and future development of the organisation.
* To promote effective relationships between Board members and staff, member organisations, other advocacy organisations, the Scottish Government and others who are important to the organisation and independent advocacy in Scotland.
* To participate where appropriate in the recruitment of staff.
* To safeguard the ethos of the organisation and to promote the organisation and its work, along with fellow Board members and staff, to existing and potential funding agencies and relevant others.
* To contribute any specific skills, knowledge and experience to assist the Board of Directors reach sound decisions.

**Skills, knowledge and experience of individual Board Members**

The SIAA may require different skills; knowledge and experience from Directors at different times and therefore the SIAA expect Directors to bring:

* A clear vision of the SIAA’s aims and objectives and understanding of the role of the SIAA.
* An ability to think strategically.
* A clear understanding of the role of the Board.
* A clear understanding of good practice regarding governance.
* Time and interest to devote to the Board and the responsibilities of the Board - to read Board papers in advance of meetings and regularly attend Board meetings which will be held on a quarterly basis; and to attend and actively participate in sub groups and working groups.
* An interest in keeping up to date and informed about the SIAA’s activities.
* Ability to contribute to meetings and to the SIAA’s leadership and direction, accountability and development in a relevant and constructive way.
* Knowledge about independent advocacy and commitment to its principles and standards.